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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/781,638

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Tomoko Adachi

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FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

SANDOVAL, KRISTIN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2132

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/03/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/781,638

Applicant(s)

ADACHI, TOMOKO

Examiner

Kristin D. Sandoval

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-19 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claim recites the limitation, "The controlling program" which constitutes software only and lacks any tangible technology.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 5, 8, 14 and 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 5 and 14 recites the limitation "the first type or the second type" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 8 recites the limitation "the user identification information selected", however, no user information has been selected on an entry screen as recited.

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Claim 19 recites the limitation "The controlling program" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Although a "login controlling method" is recited in claim 10, there is no mention of a controlling program.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-14, 16, 17 and 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Snapper et al. (Snapper), U.S. Patent No. 7,216,292.

As per claims 1, 8, 10 and 17:

Snapper discloses a data processing device displaying an entry screen for entering user identification information and password information, comprising:

storage means for storing user identification information and password information for each of a plurality of users, said user identification information and said password information being associated with each other (16:16-35);

setting means that can set whether to leave user identification information for each piece of user identification information (16:16-35, figs. 4A and 4B);

a holding step of holding a login history on memory according to the information set at said setting step (16:16-35); and

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display controlling means for selectively displaying user identification information that is set to be left by said setting means on said entry screen (16:16-57),

wherein the user identification information selected on said entry screen is processed as entered user identification information on said entry screen (16:36-57).

As per claims 2 and 11:

Snapper further discloses a device wherein said setting means provides user interface for allowing a user to set whether to leave a login history or not on a login screen presented to the user at a login operation (figs. 4A-C).

As per claims 4 and 13:

Snapper further discloses a device wherein said login histories are administered so as not to contain information on a user for a plurality of times (16:16-35).

As per claims 5 and 14:

Snapper further discloses a device wherein said authentication information contains classification information for classifying each user as the first type or the second type, and wherein said holding means holds login histories for each of said first type and said second type (15:54-65).

As per claims 7 and 16:

Snapper further discloses a device wherein said setting means automatically sets login histories to be held for the users set as said first type and provides user interface allowing the users set as said second type to set whether to leave a login history or not on a login screen presented to the user at the login operation (15:54-65).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snapper in view of Capps, U.S. Patent No. 5,666,502.

As per claims 3, 9, 12 and 18:

Snapper fails to teach setting the number of users whose login histories are held and then holding that many. However, Capps discloses setting the number 5 as the amount of names that can be held in the database (11:1-14).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set a limit to the amount of names to be stored since if too many are accumulated it can be difficult for the user to make a selection quickly as taught by Capps (2:1-13).

As per claims 6 and 15:

Snapper fails to teach setting a number of entries to be stored for each of two different types. However, Capps discloses a histories list being displayed for the different data fields, which are different types of information, and a limit to the number to be stored in each data field list (10:56-11:14).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set a limit to the amount of names to be stored since if too many are accumulated it can be difficult for the user to make a selection quickly as taught by Capps (2:1-13).

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristin D. Sandoval whose telephone number is 571-272-7958. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00-5:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kristin D Sandoval
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

Kp S

KDS


Benjamin E. Lanier
Examiner Art 2132